



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Chicago, Illinois
July 8, 1963

DBA 45392

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RE: ERIK HEINE
INTERNAL SECURITY - ESTONIA

Valdek Paid, 2801 West Grace Street, Chicago, Illinois, advised on June 17, 1963, that Erik Heine was the featured speaker at an affair sponsored by the Chicago Estonian Veterans of World War II held on June 16, 1963, at the Finnish Community Center, 4219 North Lincoln Avenue, Chicago.

The program was arranged by Erik Lubassar for the purpose of affording an opportunity for the Estonian community in Chicago to view the subject's motion picture film concerning Estonia. Approximately 300 people were in attendance and tickets were sold for \$2.00 each. The master of ceremonies was Robert Leis, who introduced Heine as the writer and producer of the film.

According to Paid, the film was 2½ hours in length and concerned the activities of Estonian partisan groups engaged in guerrilla warfare against the Soviets. Heine was the main actor in the film, which was based on his exploits in Estonia. The film was completely anti-Soviet, as was Heine's speech, which followed the showing of the motion picture. In his speech, Heine described his many escapes from the Soviets, his imprisonments, and activities on behalf of the Estonian partisans.

Because much of his story sounded almost too fantastic to believe, Paid commented, some of the questions asked of him were somewhat harsh. He was asked several times as to how he was able to have his sentence reduced by the Soviets after being imprisoned and his answer did not appear to satisfy all of those present. He explained that he was able to fool the Soviets in claiming German parentage although

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he is mainly of Estonian stock. He explained his final release from Soviet imprisonment as coming as a result of the efforts of German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, who, in 1956, arranged for release of many German prisoners held by the Russians since World War II.

Paid stated that he asked Heine to comment on the alleged parachuting of Western agents into Estonia in 1954, which action was supposedly an operation of CIA. Heine stated that he had heard of this incident and stated that it did not succeed because several of the agents who had been parachuted into Estonia got drunk and were captured by the Soviets. Paid stated he found this explanation hard to believe, in that it would seem to him that any Estonian partisans selected for such a dangerous assignment would not be the type who would give themselves away in such a stupid fashion.

Paid stated that Heine was at times overly dramatic and possibly insincere in his anti-Soviet remarks, particularly his statement that he was devoting his life to "killing as many Russians as I can."

Also during the playing of the Estonian National Anthem, Heine made a great show of weeping as he and the audience stood and sang.

Paid stated it was his impression as well as of many in the audience, that Heine was doing everything possible to ingratiate himself with local Estonians, particularly at the conclusion of the program when he was introduced to various people in the audience.

Paid stated that he heard from some of those present that Heine reportedly was laughed at during the presentation of his film in New York City.

Heine apparently had been in Chicago for three or four days prior to the showing of the film as the house-guest of Hans Hanson of Evanston, Illinois, an Estonian who grew up with Heine in a village in Estonia. Hanson appeared to be a firm believer in Heine's story of his exploits in Russia and in later discussions staunchly defended Heine when questions as to the believability of his activities were raised.

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On July 1, 1963, Paid stated that he had just returned from a visit to Canada where on June 29 and 30, he attended an Estonian celebration in the Canadian village of Gulph near Kitchener. Paid stated that approximately 2,000 Estonians living in Canada were present for this affair.

According to Paid, the majority of these Canadian-Estonians were aware of Heine's film and alleged exploits in the Soviet Union and were firm believers in the authenticity of the story as well as Heine's sincerity.

Paid also stated that from association with various Estonians in Chicago during the two weeks following Heine's appearance he found that the Estonian community is split in half with as many believing Heine as there are those who consider him a fraud.

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